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Inventors:

Lee Mizzen and Lawrence S.D.

Antony

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IMMUNE RESPONSES USING COMPOSITIONS
CONTAINING STRESS PROTEINS

M.K.Z
12/3/03

RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a Continuation-in-Part of U.S. Application No. 08/756,621, filed November 26, 1996, *(now ABN)*, the entire teachings of which are incorporated herein by reference.

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

The viruses causing influenza have been arbitrarily named as influenza type A, B, and C. These types define antigenically distinct viruses. Each type has several distinct subtypes. Viruses within one type are genetically compatible in the sense that cells infected with two different subtypes can assemble mixed viruses containing components from both subtypes. Influenza viruses are classified as orthomyxoviruses. The viruses form particles of between 80 and 120 nm in diameter. Influenza viruses are enveloped viruses, i.e., their outer surface is derived from host cell membrane. Inserted in and protruding from the envelope are two major viral-encoded proteins, hemagglutinin (HA) and neuraminidase (NA). Influenza viruses are negative-stranded RNA viruses, containing a genome made up of 8 RNA segments of non-messenger RNA polarity. The genomic RNA segments are assembled in RNP